



STUDENT SERVICES

Concordia Council on Student Life

**Minutes of the Concordia Council on Student Life
Meeting held on March 13, 2026 10:30am
at Loyola CC-408**

PRESENT: Katie Broad (Chair), Lauren Broad (Secretary), Melanie Burnett, Philippe Caignon, Maria Chitoroaga, Margaret Colton (on behalf of Julie Foisy), Oliver De Volpi (on behalf of Sarah Caille), Zoë Erika-Okoye, Lauren Farley, Matthew Fishman, Nadia Hardy, Cassandra Lamontagne, Brad Nelson, Maria Oliveira, Maria Safos, Karthikeyan Umesh.

ABSENT WITH REGRETS: Meghan Atherton, Anna Barrafato, Elana Bloom, Dianne Cmor, Darren Dumoulin, Sabrina Lavoie.

ABSENT: Vanessa Massot, Erin Mullins, Maya Youngs-Zaleski.

GUESTS: Daniel Amico (Office of Student Life & Engagement), Graeme McGravie (Recreation & Athletics).

1. Approval of the Agenda

Lauren Farley motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Nadia Hardy.

The motion passed unanimously.

2. Remarks from the Chair

Katie Broad started the meeting and welcomed the Council to the Guadagni Lounge, noting that spring was approaching, and that hopefully students were having a successful semester. She remarked that the student group elections period was occurring and encouraged all students to participate in their respective elections.

3. Approval of the Minutes from the Meeting of January 23, 2026

Lauren Farley motioned to approve the minutes from the meeting held on January 23, 2026, seconded by Philippe Caignon.

The motion passed unanimously.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes of January 23, 2026

There was no business arising from the minutes of January 23, 2026.

5. Discussion on the Guadagni Lounge Renovations (CC-408)

The Chair explained that the Guadagni Lounge was currently used as a student lounge and a bookable space for events, and that it was managed by the Office of Student Life and Engagement. She shared the challenges of the space, which included: the echoing noise due to the high, pitched ceilings; the space was located above active classrooms; the temperature

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control; and its poor accessibility. Several updates had been completed in the space in recent years, such as new carpeting, asbestos clean-up, a new roof for the CC building, and producing and installing the multiple poster boards around the lounge. Sarah Caille, Director of Hospitality and member of the CCSL, had been tasked to head a Loyola Food Services Working Group with the aim to improve food retail and social spaces on campus. The group had identified the Guadagni Lounge, the G-Lounge, as the primary space to focus on. In recent months, Sarah Caille had met with the Office of Student Life and Engagement to discuss potential projects to improve the space and make it more inviting for the Concordia community to use. Oliver De Volpi, Manager of Food Services, was in attendance to speak about the potential plan for food service opportunities in the G-Lounge. He explained that the area where food had been served and prepared in the past needed many updates to bring it up to acceptable standards. Ideally, the corner area would become a versatile space in which different groups could host regular “pop-up” events, rather than turning it into a permanent café. This would allow different food options to become available to the community and permit the space to be used by clients that wish to reserve the space for larger private events. A discussion was held, where different ideas for promoting the space was shared, including pre/post Stingers’ games events by Recreation and Athletics, yoga classes, alumni events, orientation activities and trainings. Possible sources of financial contributions to investigate were from Alumni and Advancement and Residence Life. The Chair thanked Council members for their ideas and said that they would report back as the G-Lounge Project moved forward.

6. CCSL Sub-Committees**6.1 CCSL Special Projects**

The Chair reported that the Special Projects sub-committee, including herself as Chair, Anna Barrafato, Maria Chitoroaga, Zoë Erika-Okoye, Maisha Hoquea and Lauren Broad as voting Secretary, had met on February 27, 2026 to decide on the winter 2026 applications for funding. 76 projects were reviewed, 57 of which were approved for funding, for a total amount allocated of \$58,020.72. She explained that although the sub-committee approved \$168 over the budget remaining, there would be projects that do not claim the full funds, so this deficit would not be an issue. All applicants had been notified of the decisions by email.

6.2 CCSL Awards

The Chair shared with the Council that the Awards sub-committee, including Julie Foisy as Chair, Meghan Atherton, Vanessa Massot, Zoë Erika-Okoye, Atefeh Heydari and Lauren Broad as non-voting Secretary, received 27 nominations, consisting of 13 undergraduate students, 4 graduate students, 3 faculty members and 7 staff members. The sub-committee met on February 20, 2026 and chose 10 award recipients, including 5 undergraduate students, 1 graduate student, 1 faculty member and 3 staff members.

The recipients would be honoured at the Concordia Engagement Awards Celebration that would be held on Wednesday, April 15, 2026 at the Loyola Chapel. Winners of the Volunteer Recognition Awards, Sustainability Champion Awards and the Safety Ambassador Awards would also be recognized at the event. Everyone on CCSL would receive an invitation.

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6.3 Ad-Hoc Committee on CCSL Terms of Reference

The Chair reminded the council that last year a Terms of Reference (ToR) was approved for the Concordia Council on Student Life, to replace the Policy BD-9. An ad-hoc committee was struck to take a closer look at the ToR, specifically at the mandate of the Council, to see if it was still in line with their priorities and vision for the future. The ad-hoc committee, including Katie Broad as chair, Lauren Farley, Karthikeyan Umesh, Nadia Hardy, Meghan Atherton and Lauren Broad as Secretary, drafted an implementation plan that had been circulated to the Council for review. The Chair noted that the purpose of the Implementation Plan was to equip the CCSL with a clear and practical framework for fulfilling its mandate each year. A few questions were asked regarding clarity on certain items, and there was a discussion about the repeated challenge of having CCSL's student-representative seats filled. A potential solution that was offered would be that if the Concordia Student Union (CSU) and Graduate Students' Association (GSA) failed to fill all the student representative seats by a specific deadline, then it would be the responsibility of the CCSL, through the Office of Student Life and Engagement, to find student representatives by collaborating with the other faculty associations. The Council decided instead to pursue a more targeted approach of finding student representatives by promoting the opportunity at such events as the next Campus Job Exposition, tabling at the CSU Clubs and Services Fair or on the Mezzanine, through HOJO and the Campus Jobs webpage. Students would continue to be directed to apply through the CSU and GSA. The Chair thanked the Council for the discussion and informed them that a formal motion to approve the updated Terms of Reference and Implementation Plan would be brought to the next meeting in April.

7. New Business

There was no new business at the meeting.

8. Points of Interest

The following item was shared with the Council:

- Stingers Women's Hockey team won the Quebec Championship, and they would be going to Nationals in Waterloo, Ontario.

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for April 24, 2026 at 10:00am at SGW H655.03.

10. Termination of Meeting

Maria Chitoroaga motioned to terminate the meeting, seconded by Philippe Caignon.

The motion passed unanimously.